GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6589
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2003
DISPARITY IN RATION SCALES
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about wide disparity in the Ration scale between Army and GREF officers/personnel;

(b) whether it is true that Army and GREF personnel work shoulder to shoulder in forward areas and working conditions of GREF are even more difficult to their counterparts in the Army;

(c) whether Army and GREF officers and personnel working together and dine together on the same table; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not removing disparity in scale of ration between Army and GREF and justification thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is true that GREF personnel work together with the Armed Forces during operations.During peace, GREF personnel are primarily deployed for the construction of General Staff Roads for the Army in border areas.The working conditions of the GREF Personnel are as difficult as their counterparts in the Army.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Government has sanctioned ration at the Army scale to GREF personnel on the pattern applicable to the Central Para Military Force i.e. when they are engaged on work alongside the Army, or ahead of the Army on International Border, or the line of Actual Control, or when they are under operational control of the Army, or on counter insurgency operation alongside the Army in border areas and disturbed areas.